

SITUATION REPORT NO. 1
INCIDENT NO. 95-145

DATE: August 21, 1995

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58504

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: On August 17-18, 1995, severe thunderstorms were reported in Dunn, McHenry, McKenzie, McLean, Mountrail, and Ward counties. These thunderstorms contained hail, high winds, and heavy rain.

The Pembina River Basin in Cavalier County on August 18, 1995, received up to nine inches of rain causing sheet flooding and flooding along the South Pembina River. The Pembina River Basin in Manitoba, Canada, also received about nine inches of rain. Flooding is occurring in Pembina County along the Pembina River.

2. DEATH AND INJURIES: None reported at this time.
3. DAMAGE: Large hail (up to baseball size) and heavy rain accompanied by strong winds was reported in McLean, McKenzie, Mountrail, and Ward counties causing extensive crop, building, and vehicle damage. The roof of the post office at Parshall was blown off by high winds.

On Friday, August 18, 1995, Mt. Carmel Dam on South Pembina River was threatened. The pool level reached 35.8 feet on Saturday, August 19. The level of the Dam is 37.5 feet.

The park at Walhalla was flooded. Walhalla had to close one of its wells as it became contaminated by flood water. At Neche, the Pembina River rose four feet during the 24 hour period ending at 7:00 a.m., August 21. Two roads in the Leroy area and a road in Felson Township, two bridges, and farmland along the Pembina River are flooded. Damages to roads and bridges are unknown at this time as inundation is still occurring.

4. RESOURCES COMMITTED:

LOCAL: County emergency management, Sheriff's Offices, city public works, county highway departments, county water boards, and county extension agents.

STATE: Governor, ND Division of Emergency Management, State Water Commission, ND National Guard, and State Radio Communications.

FEDERAL: National Weather Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTIONS: In Pembina County, farmers are helping each other protect farm land from flooding.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: State Water Commission staff provided on scene technical assistance at Mt. Carmel Dam. To protect the integrity of the dam, the emergency spillway was altered, allowing up to 2,000 cfs to flow out of the dam. This action relieved pressure and reduced the potential for waters to overtop the dam.

In areas affected by hail and strong winds, debris is a major concern.

The Pembina County Commission issued a Disaster Declaration on August 21, 1995.

The National Weather Service has issued flood level forecasts for Pembina and Cavalier counties, thus providing state and local officials with information to guide local response actions along the Pembina River.

In Cavalier and Pembina counties, officials are closely monitoring river level conditions and advising people to take protective actions. City officials in Neche are reviewing major flood fight procedures should the river level exceed current predictions.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is providing on scene technical assistance to Neche and Pembina County officials .

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: None at this time.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State Water Commission
9. OTHER INFORMATION: The Pembina River at Walhalla reached 14.53 feet on August 19, 1995. Flood Stage is 11.0 feet. The National Weather Service reported the Pembina River near Windygates, Manitoba, is cresting on Monday, August 21, 1995. The National Weather Service is predicting a crest of 20.5 feet to 21.5 feet on Tuesday, August 22, 1995 at Neche. Flood stage there is 18 feet, thus some local flood fight actions will be required.

Signed _____
Douglas C. Friez
State Director